(b) RailTel had discussions with M/s Mahanager Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for equity participation as a Joint Venture (JV) partner. No decision has yet been possible on this issue on account of firming up of premium on Equity and quantum of equity to be offered.

While deciding about the induction of joint venture partnrs in RailTel, the Government has decided that, initially, Public Sector Undertaking (PSUs) of Railways and PSUs of Department of Telecommunication (DoT) may be considered for induction of JV partners. Therefore, so far, no discussions have been held with M/s Power-Grid Corporation of India Limited in this respect.

(c) No. Sir. As per the Government's decision, Railway's Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) namely Indian Railways Finance Corportion (IRFC), Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR) and IRCON International Limited (IRCON) have been directed for equity participation in RailTel to the extent of Rs. 100 Crore, Rs. 25 Crore and Rs. 25 Crore respectively, totaling to 15% of the authorised capital.

Decline in Dyestuff Exports

*389. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dyestuffs Manufacturers' Association of India (DMAI) has submitted an action plan to his Ministry, to combat decline in exports and undercutting;

(b) if so, the details of plan-aims and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the names of the countires which are importing Dyestuffs from India; and

(d) India's share in the global market?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) The Dyestuffs Manufacturers' Association of India (DMAI) has prepared Strategic Action Plan for dyes and dye-intermediates industry 2001-2010. It envisages more than 4 fold increase in exports over the next 9 years from Rs. 2830 crore in 2000-2001 to Rs. 12177 crore in 2009-2010. DMAI has suggested measures

including better infrastructure facilities; change in labour laws; modernization of industry; quality testing facilities support in market development, etc. to boost exports. Specific suggestions of the Association are being pursued with concerned ministries.

(c) and (d) The major countries which import Dyestuffs from India include USA, Germany, Switzerland, U.K., Italy, Netherland, etc. According to industry estimates India's share in global market is around 6 percent.

Subsidy to Railways Canteens

*390. SHRI K.B. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are providing adequate subsidy to the Railways for providing catering services to Members of Parliament in Parliament House/Annexe canteens;

(b) if so, what is the total subsidy be provided per year;

(c) whether this subsidy is being misused as officers of the Railway Board and other departments are also using catering services from Parliament House canteens every day at cheaper rates/free of cost; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and how much money Government are losing by way of pilferage from this canteen?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The subsidy amount reimbursed by the Lok Sabha Secretariat through Ministry of Finance for the last three years are given as under:

Year	Subsidy Reimbursed by Lok Sabha Secretariat
1998-1999	Rs. 2,44,35,065.00
1999-2000	Rs. 2,32,69,731.00
2000-2001	Rs. 2,00,00,000.00

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.